

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS  
DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
P. O. BOX 451  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W12-3433(I)

TO: The Honorable Eric Clark  
Secretary of State  
Post Office Box 136  
Jackson, MS 39205  
AND  
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in New Albany, Mississippi on April 12, 2007, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following **2007-2008 Small Game Hunting and Trapping Seasons and Bag Limits**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-1-29, 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W11-3433a is hereby amended as follows:

**FROG:**

April 1, 2008 - September 30, 2008

BAG LIMIT: 25      POSSESSION LIMIT: 50

Only 25 may be taken in any one night. A valid hunting or fishing license is required.

**RACCOON:**

June 30, 2007 - September 30, 2007

BAG LIMIT: 1 per party per night

**OPOSSUM, RACCOON, AND BOBCAT:**

October 1, 2007 - October 31, 2007 (sport hunting with dogs and guns for food & sport)

BAG LIMIT: 5 per day; 8 per party      POSSESSION LIMIT: 10

November 1, 2007 - February 28, 2008 (sport hunting with dogs and guns for food, sport, and pelt)

BAG LIMIT: No limit

**SQUIRREL:**

**Zone 1:** Areas north of Hwy. 82 plus those portions of Sunflower County and Washington County south of Hwy. 82.

September 29, 2007 - February 28, 2008

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day      POSSESSION LIMIT: 16

**Zone 2:** Areas between Hwy. 82 and Hwy. 84 plus portions of the state south of Hwy. 84 and west of I-55.

October 13, 2007 - February 28, 2008

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day      POSSESSION LIMIT: 16

**Zone 3:** Areas south of Hwy. 84 and east of I-55.

October 27, 2007 - February 28, 2008

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day      POSSESSION LIMIT: 16

**Youth Squirrel Hunts\*\*** (Private Lands Only)

Zone 1 - September 22 - September 28, 2007

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day

Zone 2 - October 6 - October 12, 2007

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day

Zone 3 - October 20 - October 26, 2007

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day

\*\* Youth eligible to participate in this special hunt are those 15 years of age and younger. Each youth must be in the immediate vicinity and under the direct supervision of an adult 21 years of age or older. Furthermore, if the child is under the age of twelve (12), the supervising adult must be a licensed or exempt hunter.

**U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers managed lands:**

These lands are authorized to provide youth squirrel hunting opportunities on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge or Corps of Engineers managers for details.

**BOBWHITE QUAIL:**

November 22, 2007 - March 1, 2008

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day      POSSESSION LIMIT: 16

**RABBIT:**

October 13, 2007 - February 28, 2008

BAG LIMIT: 8 per day      POSSESSION LIMIT: 16

**TRAPPING SEASON:**

November 1, 2007 - February 28, 2008

BAG LIMIT: No Limit

Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than May 14, 2007.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: 

William C. Deviney, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: 

Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS BUREAU OF WILDLIFE

MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks  
c/o Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director  
1505 Eastover Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211-6374  
(601) 432-2400  
Sharon@mdwfp.state.ms.us

Specific Legal Authority authorizing the Promulgation of  
Rule: 41-1-29-; 25-43.3.103  
49-1-29; 49-7-47

Reference to Rules repealed, amended or suspended by the  
Proposed Rule: W1 3758

### Explanation of the Purpose of the Proposed Rule and the reason(s) for proposing the rule:

2007 Alligator Hunting Season

This rule is proposed as a ☒ Final Rule, and/or a ☐ Temporary Rule (Check one or both boxers as applicable.)

Persons may present their views on the proposed rule by addressing written comments to the agency at the above address. Persons making comments should include their name and address, as well as other contact information, and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent.

### Oral Proceeding:

Check one box below:

- ☒ An oral proceeding is scheduled on this rule on  
Date: April 12, 2007  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Place: New Albany, MS

If you wish to be heard and present evidence at the oral proceeding you must make a written request to the agency at the above address at least five (5) days prior to the proceeding to be placed on the agenda. The request should include your name, address, telephone number as well as other contact information; and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent.

☐ An oral proceeding is not scheduled on this rule. Where an oral proceeding is not scheduled, an oral proceeding will be held if a written request for an oral proceeding is submitted by a political subdivision, an agency or ten (10) persons. The written request should be submitted to the agency contact person at the above address within twenty (20) days after the filing of this notice of proposed rule adoption and should include the name, address and telephone number of the person(s) making the request; and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent.

### Economic Impact Statement:

Check one box below:

- ☒ The agency has determined that an economic impact statement is not required for this rule, or  
☐ The concise summary of the economic impact statement required is attached.

The entire text of the Proposed Rule including the text of any rule being amended or changed is attached.

Date Rule Proposed: April 12, 2007

Proposed Effective Date of Rule: June 12, 2007

  
Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director

SOS FORM APA 001  
Effective Date 01/07/2005



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS  
P.O. BOX 451  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W2-3758(I)

TO: The Honorable Eric Clark  
Secretary of State  
P.O. Box 136  
Jackson, MS 39205  
AND  
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, at a meeting in New Albany, Mississippi on April 12, 2007, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following **2007 Alligator Hunting Seasons**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-1-29 and 49-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered Public Notice W1-3758 is hereby amended as follows:

An American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) hunting season will be opened in the State of Mississippi and is hereby referred to as the following with described restrictions:

The **“Pearl River/Ross Barnett Reservoir - Alligator Hunting Season (Zone A - public),”** will be opened in Rankin, Madison, and Scott Counties in the public waters of the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District. The hunting zone boundaries are described as only within the area north of a line from Fannin Landing to Channel Marker “A” to the Natchez Trace Overlook on the main lake of Ross Barnett Reservoir, and south of the Coal Bluff Park boat ramp on the Pearl River (excluding all areas of the main lake that are west of the Natchez Trace, ie. North Bay and Twin Harbors), according to restrictions below (*see BASIC REGULATIONS below and Pearl River/Ross Barnett Reservoir Alligator Hunting Season, p. 2-4*).

An alligator hunting season, hereby referred to as the **“Private Lands - Alligator Hunting Season (Zone A - private),”** will be opened on private lands in Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties, according to restrictions below (*see BASIC REGULATIONS below and Private Lands Alligator Hunting Season, p. 4-7*).

In addition, an alligator hunting season, hereby referred to as the **“Pascagoula River - Alligator Hunting Season (Zone B)”** will be opened in Jackson County. The hunting zone is restricted to the public waters of the Pascagoula River and its tributaries only within Jackson County, excluding areas south of Hwy 90 according to restrictions below (*see BASIC REGULATIONS below and Pascagoula River Alligator Hunting Season, p. 8-10*).

**BASIC REGULATIONS: (All Zones)**

**Persons eligible:** Only residents of the State of Mississippi who are sixteen (16) years of age or older may apply for an Alligator Possession Permit (*see License Requirements*). Non-residents may participate as alligator hunting assistants (*see License Requirements*).

**Bag limit:** Each person receiving an Alligator Possession Permit will be allowed to harvest two (2) alligators four (4) feet in length or longer, only one (1) may exceed seven (7) feet in length.

**Capture and Dispatch Methods:** Alligators must be captured alive prior to shooting or otherwise dispatching the animal. It is unlawful to kill an unrestrained alligator. Restrained is defined as an alligator that has a noose or snare secured around the neck or leg in a manner that the alligator is controlled. Restraining methods are restricted to hand-held snares, snatch hooks (hand-held or rod/reel), harpoons (with attached line/bouy), and bowfishing equipment (w/ line attached from bow to arrow or line/bouy).

All alligators must be dispatched or released immediately after capture. Any alligator that is captured with a harpoon or bowfishing equipment must be reduced to the bag and may not be released. Firearms used for dispatching an alligator are restricted to shotguns with shot size no larger than #6 and bangsticks chambered in .38 caliber or larger. All shotguns and bangsticks must be cased and unloaded at all times until a restraining line has been attached to the alligator. No other firearm or ammunition may be in possession of the permittee or hunting party. No firearm or bangstick may be discharged within 100 yards of any residence, building, boat ramp, or occupied campsite.

**License Requirements:**

**Alligator Hunting Permittee:** All alligator hunting permittees must purchase and have on their person a combination resident hunting/fishing license. In addition, an Alligator Hunting License and Alligator Possession Permit is required for each permittee prior to being issued a Temporary Alligator Possession Tag. The cost of the Alligator Hunting License is twenty-five dollars (\$25). The cost of the Alligator Possession Permit is one hundred dollars (\$100). A "WMA User Permit" is required for all persons, unless otherwise exempt, who are hunting or accessing any



MDWFP operated Wildlife Management Area. *All licenses are non-refundable.*

Alligator Hunting Assistant: All residents in the hunting party who are sixteen (16) years of age or older are required to purchase and have on their person a combination hunting/fishing license and an Alligator Hunting License. Any non-residents in the hunting party who are sixteen (16) years of age or older are required to purchase and have on their person a NR-All Game License and an Alligator Hunting License. A "WMA User Permit" is required for all persons, unless otherwise exempt, who are hunting or accessing any MDWFP operated Wildlife Management Area. *All licenses are non-refundable.*

Applications: *(See specific information for each Zone).*

Mandatory Training Course: *(See specific information for each Zone).*

Mandatory Check Station: *(See specific information for each Zone).*

Harvest Reporting: *(See specific information for each Zone).*

#### **SPECIFIC REGULATIONS:**

##### **Pearl River/Ross Barnett Reservoir-Alligator Hunting Season (Zone A Public)**

Location: The hunting zone includes the public waters of the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District in Rankin, Madison, and Scott Counties only within the area north of a line from Fannin Landing to Channel Marker "A" to the Natchez Trace Overlook on the main lake of Ross Barnett Reservoir and south of the Coal Bluff Park boat ramp on the Pearl River (excluding all areas of the main lake that are west of the Natchez Trace, ie. North Bay and Twin Harbors)

Dates: September 7-9, 2007  
September 14-16, 2007

Hunting Hours: 6:00 PM till 12:00 Midnight CST

Permits: One hundred twenty (120) persons will be randomly drawn by computer to be eligible for a Alligator Possession Permit. Possession permits are not transferrable.

Applications: Applications for permits will be accepted from July 16-August 1, 2007. Application must be submitted electronically through a POS license terminal (anywhere that hunting/fishing licenses are sold). A non-refundable application fee of \$5 will be charged. Only applications received on or before August 1 will be eligible. Only one application may be submitted per person. Any person submitting multiple applications will be withdrawn from the drawing process. All drawn applicants will be notified by mail.

Mandatory training course: All drawn applicants will be required to attend and complete the Alligator Training Course provided by the MDWFP. The Pearl River/Ross Barnett Alligator Training Course will be held August 25 at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson, MS. Upon completion of the course, drawn applicants will be eligible to purchase an Alligator Possession Permit.

Mandatory Check Station: All participating permittees must check in prior to hunting and check out upon completion of the hunt each day at the checking station. All permittees must purchase an Alligator Possession Permit and Alligator Hunting License prior to registering at the check station. Each permittee in possession of an Alligator Possession Permit will be issued a Temporary Alligator Possession Tag(s) upon checking in. The check station will be open from 5:00 pm till 1:00 am.

Harvest Reporting and Tagging: All harvested alligators must be validated at the designated check station on the day of harvest. The Temporary Alligator Possession Tag must be attached to the alligator immediately after being dispatched and prior to moving or transporting. Upon validation at the check station, a federal CITES tag will be attached to the alligator.



**Private Lands-Alligator Hunting Season (Zone A - Private)**

Location: Private lands of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties.

Dates: September 7-9, 2007  
September 14-16, 2007

Hunting Hours:  
Thirty (30) minutes before sunrise on September 7 till 12:00 Midnight CST on September 9.  
AND  
Thirty (30) minutes before sunrise on September 14 till 12:00 Midnight CST on September 16.

Permits: Hinds Co. 20 permits  
Madison Co. 30 permits  
Rankin Co. 40 permits

All permits will be randomly drawn by computer. Possession permits are not transferrable.

Applicant restrictions and requirements:

Only one (1) application may be submitted per person. Any person submitting multiple applications will be withdrawn from the drawing process. All drawn applicants will be notified by mail. Applicants are not required to be landowners. Applicants must obtain and submit with the application the following information and documentation from a landowner in Hinds, Madison, or Rankin Co. who owns at least ten (10) continuous acres of property:

- signed agreement form from permitting landowner (*included in the application form*)
- proof of ownership by providing a copy of the permitting landowners 2006 property tax receipt (if the tax receipt does not document total acreage, then additional documents with acreage total are required, ie. property deed, property appraisal, or a signed letter from the appropriate county tax assessor's office)
- all required information is available through the appropriate county tax assessor's office

Applications & fees: Applications will be received July 16-August 1, 2007. Applicants must submit a properly completed application by 5:00 pm August 1, 2007. Incomplete or non-legible applications will be withdrawn from the drawing process. Applications are available on line at [www.mdwfp.com](http://www.mdwfp.com), or they may be obtained in person at any Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks (MDWFP) District Office or the MDWFP Jackson Office, M-F, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

A non-refundable application fee of \$5 is required for each application submitted. Payment must be submitted with the application. Only checks or money orders will be accepted. Make them payable to: MDWFP-Alligator Hunt Application.

Mail completed applications to: MDWFP - Wildlife Division  
Attn: PL-Alligator Possession Permit  
1505 Eastover Dr.  
Jackson, MS 39211-6374

Mandatory training course: All drawn applicants will be required to attend and complete the Alligator Training Course provided by the MDWFP. The Private Lands (Zone A) Alligator Training Course will be held on August 25 at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson, MS. Upon completion of the course, drawn applicants will be eligible to purchase an Alligator Possession Permit.

Harvest Reporting and Tagging: The Temporary Alligator Possession Tag must be attached to the alligator immediately after being dispatched and prior to moving or transporting. The Alligator Harvest Card must be filled-out, dated, and signed prior to transporting or processing. Upon harvest validation, a federal CITES tag will be attached to the alligator. All participating Private Lands Alligator Permittees must validate their harvest. There are two methods of validation available to Private Lands Alligator Hunt Permittees:

- (1) Transport the whole carcass to the checking station during station hours (5:00 pm till 1:00 am, September 7-9, and 14-16).
- (2) Transport the whole carcass or complete hide and head to any MDWFP District Office or the MDWFP Jackson Office, M-F, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

The deadline for validation is 5:00 pm on September 28.

All un-used Temporary Alligator Possession Tags along with a completed Alligator Harvest Card must be returned by September 28, 2007. . Failure to meet the deadline may result in revocation of the permittees hunting/fishing license and appropriate citations.

### **Pascagoula River-Alligator Hunting Season (Zone B)**

Location: The hunting zone is restricted to the public waters of the Pascagoula River and its tributaries only within Jackson County, excluding all areas south of Hwy 90. No hunting is allowed in any public water that is landlocked (lakes, sloughs, ponds, etc.).

Dates: September 28-30, 2007  
October 5-7, 2007

Hunting Hours: 6:00 PM till 12:00 Midnight CST

Permits: Eighty (80) persons will be randomly drawn by computer to be eligible for a Alligator Possession Permit. *Possession permits are not transferrable.*

Applications: Applications for permits will be accepted from July 16-August 1, 2007. Application must be submitted electronically through a POS license terminal (anywhere that hunting/fishing licenses are sold). A non-refundable application fee of \$5 will be charged. Only applications received on or before August 1 will be eligible. Only one application may be submitted per person. Any person submitting multiple applications will be withdrawn from the drawing process. All drawn applicants will be notified by mail.

Mandatory training course: All drawn applicants will be required to attend and complete the Alligator Training Course provided by the MDWFP. The location and date for the Pascagoula River/Jackson County Alligator Training Course will be disclosed as soon as possible (*visit our website [www.mdwfp.com](http://www.mdwfp.com) or call 601-928-3720 or 601-432-2199 for updated training coarse location, date, and time information*). Upon completion of the course, drawn applicants will be eligible to purchase an Alligator Possession Permit.

Mandatory Check Station: All participating permittees must check in prior to hunting and check out upon completion of the hunt each day at the checking station.



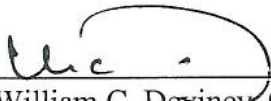
All permittees must purchase an Alligator Possession Permit and Alligator Hunting License prior to registering at the check station. Each permittee in possession of an Alligator Possession Permit will be issued a Temporary Alligator Possession Tag(s) upon checking in. The check station will be open from 5:00 pm till 1:00 am.

Harvest Reporting and Tagging: All harvested alligators must be validated at the designated check station on the day of harvest. The Temporary Alligator Possession Tag must be attached to the alligator immediately after being dispatched and prior to moving or transporting. Upon validation at the check station, a federal CITES tag will be attached to the alligator.

Any person violating the regulations set forth in this document is guilty, upon conviction, of a Class I offense and is punishable as provided in MS CODE §49-7-141.

Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than May 14, 2007.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS

BY:   
William C. Deviney, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, AND PARKS

BY:   
Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director